

U.S. App. No.
10/663,298

In the Claims:

1 1. (currently amended) A sole structure for a cleated shoe
2 adapted to be worn on a foot of a person, said sole
3 structure comprising:

4 an outsole formed of a thin plate of a hard material,
5 ~~said outsole being in the shape of a thin plate material;~~
6 and

7 a plurality of cleats provided on a ~~bottom~~ lower
8 surface of said outsole;

9 wherein said outsole has a first bulge and a second
10 bulge that each respectively include a convex bulge
11 protrusion protruding downwardly on said lower surface of
12 said outsole and a concave bulge depression on an upper
13 surface of said outsole in correspondence with said convex
14 bulge protrusion on said lower surface, toward the ground
15 surface, said first bulge is located at a first position
16 adapted to correspond ~~that corresponds~~ to a thenar eminence
17 of ~~[[a]]~~ the foot of the person, a shoe wearer, said second
18 bulge is located at a second position adapted to correspond
19 ~~that corresponds~~ to a hypothenar ~~eminence,~~ eminence of the
20 foot of the person, said concave bulge depressions of said
21 first and second bulge each having bulges have a sectional
22 shape adapted to conform ~~that conforms~~ to a shape of a
23 forefoot portion of ~~[[a]]~~ the foot that has been flexed,
24 and at least some of said cleats are provided on ~~[[a]]~~
25 convexly curved surface surfaces of said convex bulge
26 protrusions of said first and second bulges.

1 2. (currently amended) The sole structure for a cleated shoe
2 according to claim 1, wherein said outsole further includes
3 a third bulge protruding ~~downwardly toward the ground~~
4 ~~surface,~~ downwardly, said third bulge is located at a third
5 position adapted to correspond ~~that corresponds~~ to a first
6 distal phalanx of ~~[[a]]~~ the foot of the person, ~~a shoe~~
7 ~~wearer,~~ and at least some of said cleats are provided on a
8 convexly curved surface of said third bulge.

1 3. (currently amended) The sole structure for a cleated shoe
2 according to claim 2, wherein said outsole further includes
3 a fourth bulge protruding ~~downwardly toward the ground~~
4 ~~surface,~~ downwardly, said fourth bulge is located at a
5 region adapted to correspond ~~that corresponds~~ to each
6 phalangeal joint between each distal phalanx and each
7 middle phalanx of a second toe to a fifth toe of ~~[[a]]~~ the
8 foot of ~~a shoe wearer,~~ the person, and at least some of
9 said cleats are provided on a convexly curved surface of
10 said fourth bulge.

1 4. (currently amended) The sole structure for a cleated shoe
2 according to claim 1, wherein said outsole has a flat,
3 W-shaped undulating cross section at said first and second
4 bulges.

Claims 5 and 6 (canceled).

1 7. (currently amended) The sole structure for a cleated shoe
2 according to claim 4, wherein one of said cleats is located
3 at a ~~[[top]]~~ centered position of ~~a corresponding bulge.~~
4 one of said bulges.

1 8. (currently amended) The sole structure for a cleated shoe
2 according to claim 3, wherein one of said cleats is located
3 at a ~~[[top]]~~ centered position of ~~a corresponding bulge.~~
4 one of said bulges.

1 9. (currently amended) The sole structure for a cleated shoe
2 according to claim 2, wherein one of said cleats is located
3 at a ~~[[top]]~~ centered position of ~~a corresponding bulge.~~
4 one of said bulges.

1 10. (currently amended) The sole structure for a cleated shoe
2 according to claim 1, wherein one of said cleats is located
3 at a ~~[[top]]~~ centered position of ~~a corresponding bulge.~~
4 one of said bulges.

1 11. (previously presented) The sole structure for a cleated
2 shoe according to claim 10, wherein said sole structure
3 further includes a midsole formed of a soft elastic
4 material, said midsole disposed at least at a forefoot
5 portion of the upper surface of said outsole.

1 12. (previously presented) The sole structure for a cleated
2 shoe according to claim 4, wherein said sole structure
3 further includes a midsole formed of a soft elastic
4 material, said midsole disposed at least at a forefoot
5 portion of the upper surface of said outsole.

1 13. (previously presented) The sole structure for a cleated
2 shoe according to claim 3, wherein said sole structure
3 further includes a midsole formed of a soft elastic
4 material, said midsole disposed at least at a forefoot
5 portion of the upper surface of said outsole.

1 14. (previously presented) The sole structure for a cleated
2 shoe according to claim 2, wherein said sole structure
3 further includes a midsole formed of a soft elastic
4 material, said midsole disposed at least at a forefoot
5 portion of the upper surface of said outsole.

1 15. (previously presented) The sole structure for a cleated
2 shoe according to claim 1, wherein said sole structure
3 further includes a midsole formed of a soft elastic
4 material, said midsole disposed at least at a forefoot
5 portion of the upper surface of said outsole.

1 16. (new) The sole structure for a cleated shoe according to
2 claim 15, wherein said midsole in an uncompressed condition
3 has a flat upper surface and an undulating curved lower

4 surface fitting said concave bulge depressions on said
5 upper surface of said outsole.

1 17. (new) The sole structure for a cleated shoe according to
2 claim 1, wherein said bulges give said lower surface a
3 smoothly curved undulating sectional shape.

1 18. (new) The sole structure for a cleated shoe according to
2 claim 1, wherein said thin plate forming said outsole has
3 a continuous uniform thickness in an area of said bulges.

[RESPONSE CONTINUES ON NEXT PAGE]